

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A system for processing a batch which is distributed into a plurality of  
5 independent segments. A preferred embodiment of this invention calls for  
implementation on a symmetrical multiprocessing platform, however, the invention is also  
applicable to massively parallel architectures as well as uniprocessor environments. Each  
segment comprises a plurality of discrete events, each discrete event comprising a  
plurality of sub-events to be processed. The system operates to process each discrete  
10 event within each segment sequentially and each sub-event within each discrete event  
sequentially. The plurality of segments may be processed on an uniprocessor, an SMP  
system or an MPP system. By balancing the number of discrete events in each segment  
using a "coarse grain" approach, a flexible but efficient use of processor availability is  
obtained.